

## As the weather gets nice and you begin to work in your yard, please keep these guidelines in mind:

1. Branches should be no more than 4 inches in diameter, 4 feet long and stacked at the curb for collection.
2. Please stack branches with the limbs facing the same direction, not intertwined, to allow for easier collection.
3. Other yard waste items, *excluding grass clippings*, should be placed *in rigid containers* for collection on your yard waste day.
4. The City *does not* pick up soil, sod or grass clippings. Please consider mulching grass clippings; they are an excellent source of nutrients for the soil.
5. Please keep yard waste free of garbage. This allows us to compost the material while reducing the landfill fees.
6. The City *does not* pick up brush or yard waste for work that was contracted. If you paid someone to do the work, they are responsible for disposing of the waste.
7. Tree branches should be a minimum of 8 ft. above the sidewalk and 15 ft. over the street to allow school buses and the City's large trucks to safely navigate the streets. This also allows pedestrians to safely use the sidewalks.

## RECYCLE GRASS CLIPPINGS!

### LEAVE THEM!

Grass clippings are an excellent source of nutrients for the soil, reducing the need to fertilize your yard. Clippings *do not* contribute to thatch build up which happens from the accumulation of grass roots and stems.

A tip: to leave clippings on your lawn, have them work most effectively as a soil enhancement and keep your yard looking great, only one-third of your grass length should be removed when mowing, allowing clippings to be short enough to filter through the existing grass. Don't allow grass to double its height between mowing.

### MULCH THEM!

Spread a half-inch layer of untreated grass clippings around vegetables, flowers, trees and shrubs. Treated grass clippings should be left on the lawn. Mulching keeps soil loose and moist, smothers weeds, prevents soil erosion and releases nutrients as the material decomposes.

### COMPOST THEM!

Purchase or build a compost bin to contain your grass clippings with composting leaves. Back-yard composting instructions are at: [www.in.gov/idem/recycle/2374.htm](http://www.in.gov/idem/recycle/2374.htm) Compost material can be used around gardens, flower or shrub beds or as potting material.